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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | DECEMBER 28, 2017

Troy Officials Remind Residents to Take Precautions to Prevent Household Pipes from Freezing

TROY NY – As temperatures continue to drop across the Capital Region, city officials are reminding Troy residents to take steps to prevent household pipes from freezing during the winter season. Property owners and renters are being asked to be vigilant to protect their homes, apartments and businesses.

“Extreme cold weather can cause significant problems for interior and exterior household water pipes,” said **Mayor Patrick Madden**. “Residents can take proactive steps to avoid the inconvenience of losing running water or the financial burden of damage caused by broken water pipes inside their homes.”

Prevent Pipes from Freezing:

During periods of extreme cold temperatures, Troy residents are reminded to take the following preventative measures:

1. Keep your thermostat set to the same temperature for both day and night, even when you are not home;
2. Close all exterior doors, including garage doors and other exterior entryways;
3. Open hot & cold faucets to a slow drip during the coldest time of the day or night;
4. Keep kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors open to allow heat to reach un-insulated pipe near exterior walls. Don't forget to remove any stored household cleaners and chemicals out of the reach of children; and
5. Know the location of your internal shut off valves in case of a leak or frozen pipe.

If a resident discovers a pipe is frozen, he or she should keep the faucet(s) open and contact a licensed plumber immediately. If a household water pipe bursts, turn off the water at the internal shut-off valve immediately.

Winter Travel:

Residents who will be away from their home or apartment for an extended period during the winter months are reminded to be careful how much they lower the heat. Additionally, residents can also ask trusted neighbors or friends to check on their property while they are away.

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